

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q92442

Hiroki USUI, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 12, 2006

For: ELECTROLYTE COMPOSITION, PHOTOELECTRIC CONVERSION ELEMENT
USING THE SAME, AND DYE-SENSITIZED PHOTOVOLTAIC CELL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-157914, published May 30, 2003.
2. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-157719, published May 30, 2003.
3. Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-306858, published November 5, 1999.
4. Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-306859, published November 5, 1999.
5. Japanese Patent No. 2664194, issued June 20, 1997, which corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,927,721, issued May 22, 1990.
6. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2001-160427, published June 12, 2001.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
National Stage Entry of PCT/JP2004/010245

7. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2002-184478, published June 28, 2002.
8. Brian O'Regan, et al. "A LOW-COST, HIGH EFFICIENTCY SOLAR CELL BASED ON DYE-SENSITIZED COLLOIDAL TiO₂ FILMS," Nature, Vol. 353, October 24, 1991, pgs. 737-740.
9. N. Papageorgiou, et al. "THE PERFORMANCE AND STABILITY OF AMBIENT TEMPERATURE MOLTEN SALTS FOR SOLAR CELL APPLICATIONS," Journal of the Electrochemical Society, Vol. 143, No. 10, October 1996, pgs. 3099-3108.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications, and those listed in the International Search Report. It is assumed that copies of the cited references from the International Search Report will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.


In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents Applicant submits the International Search Report which cites reference Nos. 1-4 and indicates the degree of relevance found by the Foreign Office. Applicant states that above reference Nos. 5-7 are discussed within the specification.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
National Stage Entry of PCT/JP2004/010245

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 12, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				Complete if Known 10/564314	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> (use as many sheets as necessary)				Confirmation Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	January 12, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Hiroki USUI
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	Q92442
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 4,927,721		05-22-1990	GRATZEL, et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2003-157914	A	05-30-2003	FUJI PHOTO FILM CO., LTD.	
		JP	2003-157719	A	05-30-2003	HITACHI MAXELL, LTD.	
		JP	11-306858	A	11-05-1999	TDK CORP.	
		JP	11-306859	A	11-05-1999	TDK CORP.	
		JP	2664194	B2	06-20-1997		
		JP	2001-160427	A	06-12-2001	TOSHIBA CORP.	Abstract
		JP	2002-184478	A	06-28-2002	FUJI XEROX CO LTD	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Brian O'Regan, et al. "A LOW-COST, HIGH EFFICIENTCY SOLAR CELL BASED ON DYE-SENSITIZED COLLOIDAL TiO ₂ FILMS," Nature, Vol. 353, October 24, 1991, pgs. 737-740.	
		N. Papageorgiou, et al. "THE PERFORMANCE AND STABILITY OF AMBIENT TEMPERATURE MOLTEN SALTS FOR SOLAR CELL APPLICATIONS," Journal of the Electrochemical Society, Vol. 143, No. 10, October 1996, pgs. 3099-3108.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.